

Advanced Concepts and Developments in Quality of Service

Session IPS-430

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Agenda

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- Introduction
- Differentiated Services (Diff-Serv)
- RSVP and Integrated Services (Int-Serv)
- The QoS Role of MPLS
- Conclusions

Is QoS Necessary?

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It's hard to argue against the "just throw bandwidth at it" argument

Low utilization is an effective tool for QoS

Providing low utilization everywhere and for all traffic regardless of need may be impractical or too costly, esp. on WAN links

"Abundant" BW has a habit of getting eaten, e.g. TCP apps use all the BW and voice is hosed

 We'll assume that BW isn't abundant everywhere and thus QoS is needed

Why Those Topics?

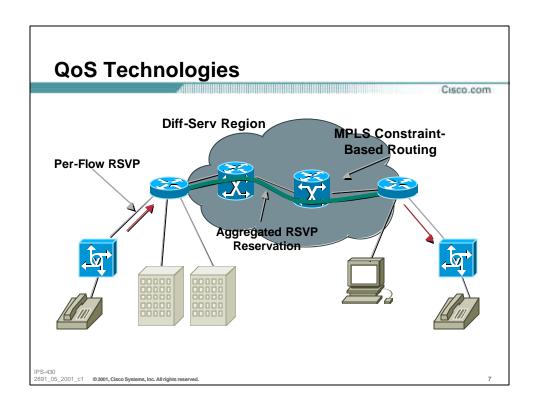
- Diff-Serv is the preferred QoS technology for large-scale deployment, e.g. ISPs
- Int-Serv and RSVP are not dead

In use to provide stronger guarantees and topologyaware admission control

Very useful for voice

 MPLS is being deployed widely by service providers

Its role in QoS is much debated Often deployed in conjunction with Diff-Serv



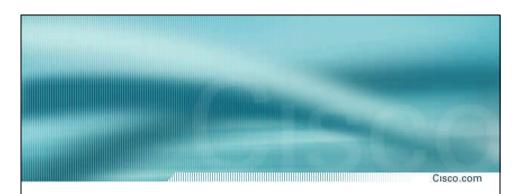
Objectives

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- Help you pick and choose among the various QoS technology offerings
- Present the trends and upcoming developments in IP QoS
- Help you impress friends with bleedingedge QoS knowledge

Why the IP focus?

- IP is the dominant (inter)network layer protocol
- TCP is the dominant data transport 90-95% of Internet traffic uses TCP
- VOIP is a growing market
- Heterogeneous link layers



Differentiated Services (Diff-Serv)

Recent Developments

Diff-Serv Agenda

- Diff-Serv Recap
- The New "EF" (Expedited Forwarding)
- Worst-Case Bounds and Guarantees
- Services and Per-Domain Behaviors (PDBs)

Diff-Serv Overview

- Clearly the preferred QoS technology for **ISPs** today
- Near-minimal complexity

E.g. Can deploy DS with just 1 header bit and 2 "per-hop behaviors" (PHBs)

 Edge behavior (classification, marking, policing etc.) + core behavior (PHBs) provides services

Variety of services from a single PHB

Diff-Serv Contributions

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 Standardized definition of the "Diff-Serv Code Point" (DSCP)

(After years of confusion about TOS)

- Small set of standard PHBs EF, AF, etc.
- An overall architecture for DS
 Mostly formalizing ideas already in use

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Diff-Serv and Cisco

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- A subset of Diff-Serv functionality has been available in Cisco IOS for some time
- CAR, WRED, CBWFQ, LLQ are all Diff-Serv building blocks
- IOS originally used IP Precedence (3 bits)
 Full 6-bit DSCP support now becoming available

Defined PHBs

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- Expedited Forwarding (EF)
 Dedicated low delay queue
- Assured Forwarding (AF)
 n queues ? m drop preferences
- Class Selector (CS)
 Backward compatible w/precedence
- Default (best effort)

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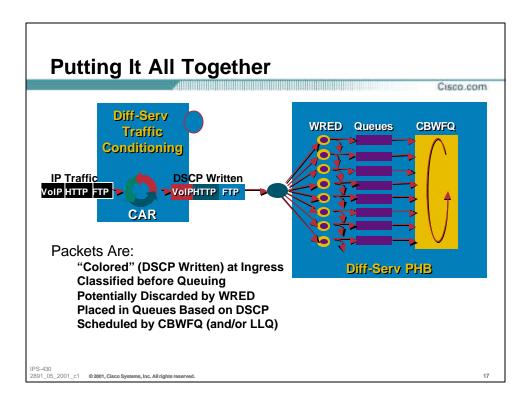
Example Service with Diff-Serv

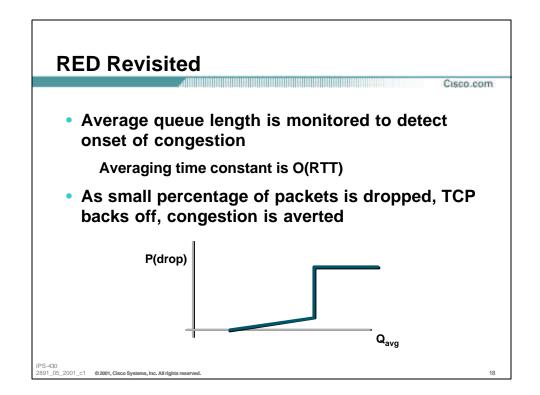
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 Classifier + token bucket policer at network edge

Recognize and meter traffic in need of isolation; set DSCP = x

- Dedicate a queue (and some bandwidth) to DSCP = x
- Effect is to run this traffic on its own logical network (with controlled utilization)





RED Revisited (Cont.)

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 RFC 2309 recommends use of RED to improve network performance

Keep average queues short—buffers are there for the bursts, not to add delay

Random drops less likely to force TCP into slow start

- RFC 2597 recommends RED as basis for Assured Forwarding PHB
- RFC 2481 (Experimental) defines Explicit Congestion Notification based on RED

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Explicit Congestion Notification (ECN)

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- A simple enhancement to RED
- Packets are marked rather than dropped (using the other 2 "TOS" bits)
- TCP congestion avoidance responds as if drop occurred—other transports may also react appropriately
- Congestion avoidance without loss
- Host participation required

Packets marked "ECN capable"

Receiver conveys marking back to sender at transport layer

RED: Queue Length Determination

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The queue length in RED is calculated as a weighted moving average

$$L_n = (1 - w)? L_{n-1} + w? L_{inst}$$

Time constant reflects typical RTT

Respond to congestion that can be affected, not to shorter term bursts

- Instantaneous queue measurement alone will drop prematurely, miss congestion
- Extensive analysis and experience of RED assumes moving average approach

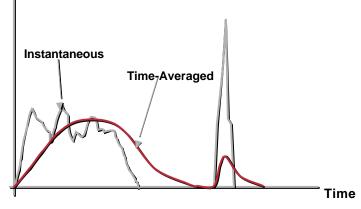
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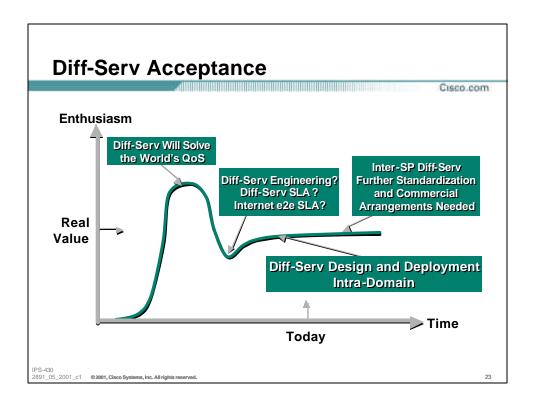
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Queue Length



 Instantaneous reading misses congestion, penalizes bursts

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Diff-Serv Agenda

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EF—The Big Picture

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 EF was intended to support services needing guaranteed rate, low jitter

(E.g. Virtual Wire, but not only VW)

RFC 2598 did this by providing guaranteed rate PHB

Service rate > arrival rate? minimal jitter

- draft-charny-...00 pointed out implementation problems for RFC 2598, proposed a fix
- Techno-political chaos ensued...

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RFC 2598 Problems

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 RFC2598 required EF traffic be served at a known output rate R

Widely understood as "priority queue or high-weight WRR/WFQ"

Difficulties arose when dealing with

Time interval to measure R

Lack of EF packets to serve (maybe due to internal delay)

Intuitively valid implementations violated spec
 Appendix was the best part of spec

Intuition behind New Definition

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- EF packets should ideally be served at rate R (or faster)
- Calculate an "ideal finishing time" for each packet based on "fluid" service at rate R
- Deviation from ideal departure time is bounded by an error term E

Low E is good

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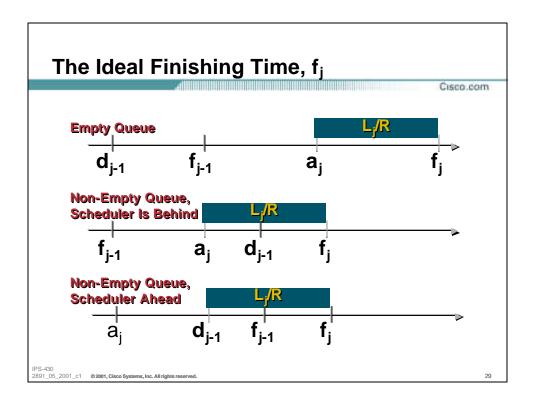
Ideally, When Should a Packet Leave?

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Time to serve packet of length L at rate R is L/R

Service should finish L/R seconds after it starts

- If EF packet arrives at empty EF queue, service should start at once
- If EF packet arrives at non-empty EF queue, service should start right after last packet is served



The Equations

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$$f_j = max(a_j, min(d_j-1, f_j-1)) + L_j/R$$

Service is never required to start until packet has arrived

If scheduler is "late", service should start after last ideal departure—don't lose rate

If scheduler is "early", service should start after last real departure—don't penalize better service

Service should take L/R seconds

Actual departure lags ideal by E or less:

$$d_j$$
 ? f_j + E

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"Identity-Aware" Equations

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Original draft bounds delay and jitter only if service discipline is known

E.g. Can bound per-packet delay and jitter if service was FIFO for EF aggregate

We didn't want to mandate FIFO service

One packet could be delayed for ever in some cases

 Solution: Add "packet-identity-aware" version of definition to original one

Bounds per-packet delay and jitter for any service discipline (given limited input rate and burst)

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Aggregate vs. Packet-Identity-Aware

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 In aggregate equations, d_j and f_j refer to j^h EF departure, which may not be the packet that arrived at a_i





 In new definition, d_j and f_j refer to departure times for the packet that arrived at a_i





Identity-Aware Definition

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 Looks exactly like old definition, but E becomes E_p (packet error) and a_i and d_i are for the same packet



- Does not require FIFO service of EF packets, but quantifies deviation from "ideal" FIFO EF behavior
- Provides a per-packet delay bound:
 D_p ? B/R + E_p if traffic offered to interface conforms to (R,B) token bucket

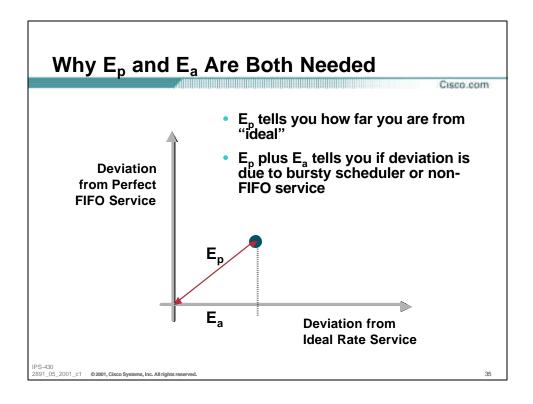
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Why Keep the Aggregate Version?

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- Closer to RFC 2598
 Output rate-based definition
- E_p hides many sins
 - E.g. A bursty scheduler and a smooth one with limited misordering look the same
- E_p penalizes certain "reasonable" behaviors
 - E.g. Devices with many ports have large $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{p}}$
 - E.g. Per-input WFQ, per "rate-class" queuing



The New EF—The Bottom Line

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 Like RFC 2598, new definition can be implemented by a dedicated queue served at high priority/known rate

Without the bugs of 2598

 Two sets of equations allow rigorous conformance testing and quantification of implementation

Implementations that come closest to ideal "fluid" service at rate R get best scores

E.g. PQ > CBWFQ > WRR

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Diff-Serv Agenda

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- Worst-Case Bounds and Guarantees
- Services and Per-Domain Behaviors (PDBs)

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Disclaimers

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- This section might cause you to become discouraged about Diff-Serv
- This is about worst-case—reality is unlikely to be this bad

Motivated by desired to understand hard guarantees and to dispel hype

- EF and LLQ remain the recommended approach for low latency
- All the following arguments apply equally well to ATM, FR and IP

Can Diff-Serv Provide Guarantees?

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- Confusion around the "virtual wire" (formerly virtual leased line)
- Need some way to bound the offered load on each link

E.g. ingress policing + topology/traffic matrix knowledge, or admission control

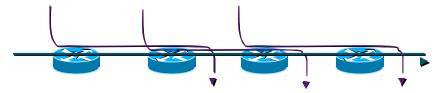
- Even so, "bad" things can happen...
- For analysis, consider a network with only EF traffic in it

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Worst-Case Example

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- Burst accumulation is the problem
 - Low average utilization but spikes of high utilization
- Smooth "green" flow of rate << line rate intersects many "purple" flows of much lower rate

Bursts of green result, as we'll see...

Worst-Case Behavior (1) Green packets arrive well-spaced at rate << line rate Purple packets arrive at much lower rate, but synchronized and before first green Output is nowhere near to oversubscribed Result: burst of green packets at output can make this arbitrarily bad with

enough inputs

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Worst-Case Behavior (3)

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Suppose

We build up a big burst of back-to-back packets on an OC-48

That reaches a deaggregation router with OC-3 links toward customers

 Delay experienced by packet at end of burst is almost the time to transmit entire burst at OC-3

Effect of lower speed interfaces left to the reader...

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Analysis of Worst-Case

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 For general topology, worst case delay bound is known if ? < 1/(h - 1)

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? = utilization, h = number of hops
e.g.? < 10% for 11 hop network, and delay bound? ?
as?? 10%
```

- Better bounds for some topologies
- Bounds are sensitive to:

Utilization

Burstiness of input streams

Rates of input streams

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Implications

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Worst-case is improved when

Utilizations are low (duh!)

Traffic is well-smoothed on ingress

Flows of similar rates grouped in one PHB

Recall that burst accumulation followed from a high-rate stream intersecting many lowrate streams

Suggests different queues for voice and video, for example

Worst-Case vs. Reality

- Worst case can theoretically happen—but is it likely?
- Relevant experience from ATM CBR

Exact same analysis for ATM with aggregate queuing Input streams typically well smoothed

Typical delays and utilizations much better than theoretical worst case (e.g.? = 50%)

Still gaining IP/Diff-Serv experience

Start conservative and ramp up

Diff-Serv Agenda

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Terminology

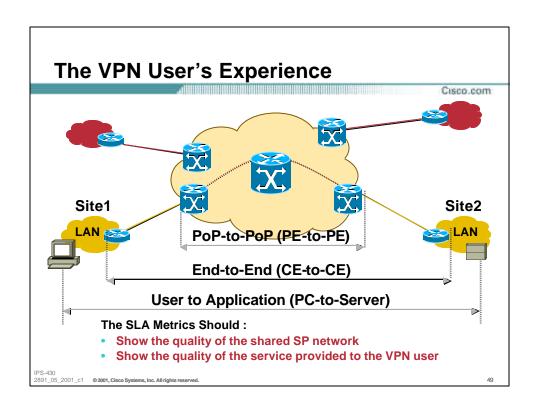
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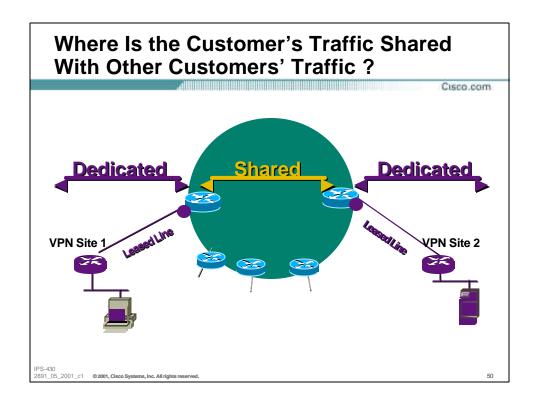
- IETF has avoided "services" and "SLAs"
 Notion that each ISP wants to define their own services for differentiation
- "Per-Domain Behaviors" (PDBs) are essentially services defined across a single domain

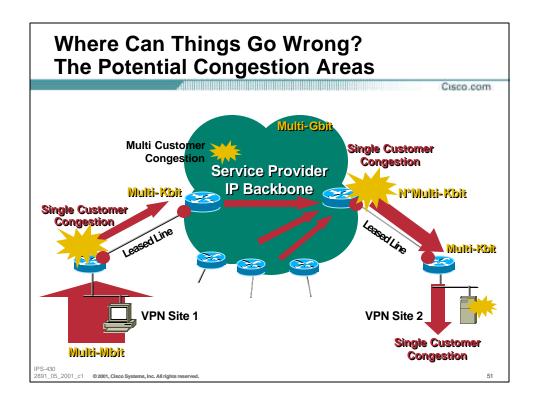
Virtual wire—the most notorious PDB

 Service level specifications (SLSs) are SLAs without the legal bits

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Enterprise Customer IP-VPN SLA Requirements

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- Get equivalent or better SLA commitment for IP as for FR, ATM and leased lines services
- Get proactive reporting on the the service performance, including trend analysis and capacity planning
- Motivate service provider to take "problems" seriously (penalties, contract termination...)

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Example SLA Components

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- Bounded delay, 99% delay, or average delay
- Average loss rate
- Service-specific target
 E.g. transfer time for file of size X
- Availability target
- Statistical rather than worst-case

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How To Deliver SLAs with Diff-Serv

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EF and AF both allow provider to build logically separate networks

EF, AF1, AF2, etc. each run at independently controlled utilization

Offered load into a class is controlled by policing Resource allocation per class controlled by queue configuration

AF also provides means to "shed load"

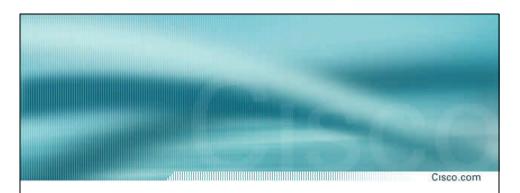
E.g. AF12 is dropped in congestion before AF11

SLA Delivery with Diff-Serv

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- If you don't like worst-case theory, need to measure
- Run each class at a utilization that meets the SLA target with reasonable safety margin
- Monitor safety margin and violations (e.g. SAA)
- Adapt by reducing load or increasing resources for a class

Increase total capacity as the last resort See also traffic engineering



RSVP and Integrated Services (Int-Serv)

RSVP and Int-Serv Agenda

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- Int-Serv/Diff-Serv Integration
- RSVP Aggregation
- RSVP Refresh Reduction and Reliability
- RSVP Future Directions

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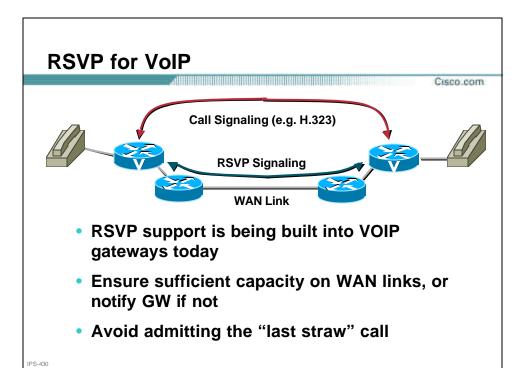
What Are RSVP and Int-Serv Good For?

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 Making firm-hard reservations for individual application flows

Topology-aware admission control is ideal for voice

- Main drawback: per flow state in routers
 Scaling properties not attractive to ISPs
- Valuable today in enterprise nets
 E.g. Admission control on a WAN link



Scaling Issues in RSVP

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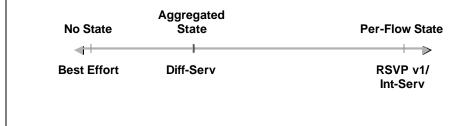
- Classification state: Need to identify each microflow using 5-tuple
- Policer state: Token bucket per microflow
- Scheduling state: Guaranteed service needs a queue per microflow
- Reservation state: Data structures for each reservation

Both storage and refresh costs

Differentiated Services

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Created largely in response to scaling concerns about RSVP



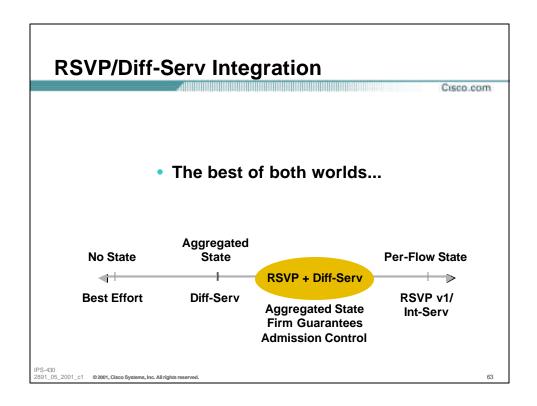
The Trouble with Diff-Serv

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- As currently formulated, Diff-Serv is strong on simplicity and weak on guarantees
- Virtual wire using EF is quite firm, but how much can be deployed?

No topology-aware admission control mechanism

 Example: How do I reject the "last straw" VOIP call that will degrade service of calls in progress?



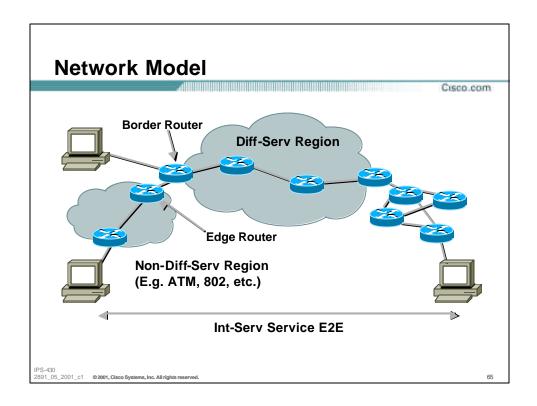
Problem Statement

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 Combine Int-Serv end-to-end for firm guarantees with Diff-Serv in core for scalability

Given the presence of a Diff-Serv "cloud" in a network that aims to support Int-Serv E2E, how do we meet the QOS goals of applications?

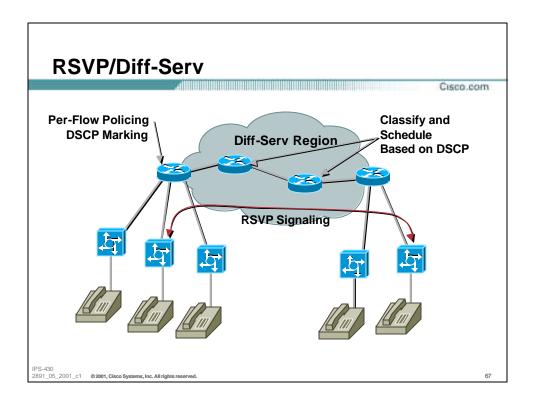
Analogous to handling ATM, 802, etc. clouds in Int-Serv networks



Addressing Scaling Issues

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- Per-flow queuing
 Use controlled load or LLQ
- Reservation state
 Aggregate RSVP and refresh reduction
- Per-flow classification and policing
 Use Diff-Serv data plane with Int-Serv control plane, i.e. classify with DSCP



RSVP/Diff-Serv Step 1

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 Routers at edge of DS cloud perform microflow classification and policing, set DSCP

May use 2 values for "in" and "out" of contract
Guaranteed? EF, controlled load? AFx is an option,
but it's a local policy choice

- RSVP is used at every hop for admission control
- DSCP classification and scheduling in the core
- Scaling limit is now just the per-flow reservation state

Control plane only

> 10k reservations per node already demonstrated

RSVP and Int-Serv Agenda

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- Int-Serv/Diff-Serv Integration
- RSVP Aggregation
- RSVP Refresh Reduction and Reliability
- RSVP Future Directions

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Per-Flow RSVP Aggregated RSVP Reservation | PS-430 | 2931,05,2001,c1 | © 2001, Cliaco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved. | To provide the provided by the control of the provided by the control of the provided by the provi

RSVP Aggregation

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- Forwarding plane: Still Diff-Serv
- We now make aggregated reservations ("fat pipes") from ingress to egress
- Microflow RSVP messages are "hyperspaced" across cloud
- Size of aggregate reservation may be dynamically adjusted to cover all microflows

Heuristics are possible

RSVP Aggregation Details (1)

- E2E RSVP messages represent microflows
- Aggregate RSVP messages represent "fat pipes" of many flows
- Aggregation region is created by configuring routers to aggregate and de-aggregate

Such routers have "interior" and "exterior" interfaces

Aggregation occurs when E2E path goes from interior to exterior

RSVP Aggregation Details (2)

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 Aggregation router swaps IP protocol number from "RSVP" to "RSVP-E2E-IGNORE"

Ignored by core routers

Intercepted and restored to "RSVP" by deaggregation (egress) router

 Egress router send PathErr back to ingress

End-points for new aggregate reservation are thus auto-discovered

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RSVP Aggregation Details (3)

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Ingress and egress routers build an aggregate reservation

Like normal reservation, but new session type identifies the DSCP

All flows sharing common ingress, egress and DSCP belong to one aggregate session

Size of aggregate is determined by summation of E2E paths and resvs—heuristics may be used to reduce churn

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Path Consistency

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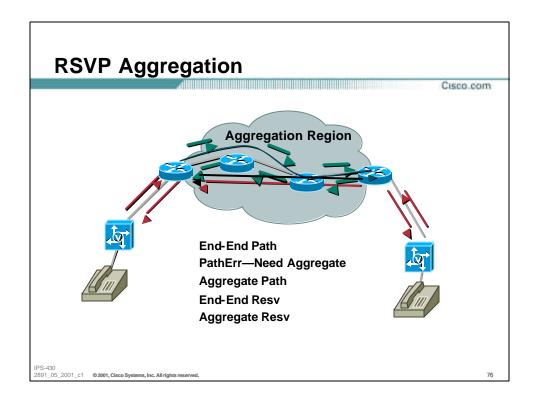
- Aggregate reservation is built by sending path from ingress to egress routers
- Path carries destination address of egress; data carries DA of true endpoint
- In most cases, path and data will go the same way, but it can't be guaranteed

E.g. Equal cost load balancing

 Best solution is to force the data to follow the Path, e.g. by tunneling

MPLS is one option here

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Status

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- RFC has (finally) passed IESG review
- In the RFC editor's queue
- Partial implementation in IOS today More on this shortly...

RSVP and Int-Serv Agenda

- Int-Serv/Diff-Serv Integration
- RSVP Aggregation
- RSVP Refresh Reduction and Reliability
- RSVP Future Directions

Refresh Reduction Issues (1)

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- Concern about the cost of refreshing large numbers of RSVP reservations
- Increasing timer values would reduce reliability
- Even at default values, lack of message reliability could be a problem

One lost message could delay reservation establishment by minutes

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Refresh Reduction Issues (2)

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- Debate centered around steady-state load
- Primary issue in scaling signaling is dealing with the impulse load under transient conditions
- Nothing to do with refresh/soft state—best handled by sound implementation

E.g. Message pacing, efficient processing of common cases, etc.

RSVP "Refresh Reduction"

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Provides:

- Message reliability
- Faster state update
- Resynchronization
- Reduced message load

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Refresh Mechanisms

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- Designed to retain multicast support
 Running over TCP would lose this
- Message ID
 Message ID Ack
 Message ID Nack
- Summary refresh
- Piggybacking

Trigger and Refresh Messages

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- Most RSVP refreshes are exact copies of previously sent messages
- A message which differs from the previous message is called a trigger message
- Trigger messages are always sent with a new Message_ID
- Refresh messages are sent with the old Message_ID (if they're sent at all)

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Reliability and Responsiveness

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- Message_ID object has an Ack request flag
- Receiver must Ack if this is present
- Prior to receiving an Ack, the sender may use a shorter refresh timer to ensure timely delivery

Summary Refresh

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- Once a message has been sent with a Message_ID and acked, it can be refreshed simply by sending the Message_ID
- The summary refresh message carries a list of message IDs to be refreshed

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Receiver Side State Sync

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- Senders periodically refresh all messages within time-out period of those messages
- If receiver finds an unknown Message_ID, send Nack for that message
- Sender response to Nack is to send the full message

RSVP and Int-Serv Agenda

- Int-Serv/Diff-Serv Integration
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- RSVP Future Directions

RSVP Futures

- IETF is considering future directions in signaling
- RSVP possibilities

Enhanced resource sharing

Two-phase operation

Enhanced Resource Sharing

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 RSVP allows sharing among multiple senders, but what about multiple receivers?

E.g. In call waiting, why book two sets of resources when I can only talk to one person

Should be able to reserve one set of resources, shared among calls, under control of application

Basic approach: A "session ID" to identify sessions (calls) that may be shared

Resource Sharing Cisco.com В Path, Id=C1 Path, Id=C1 **Shared Resources**

Two-Phase Operation

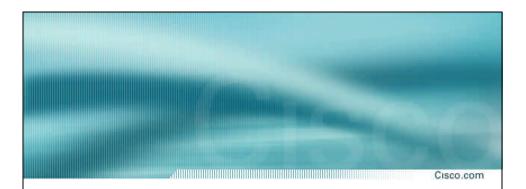
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- RSVP reserves resources and makes them available at once
- In telephony, reserve resources before ringing, but make them available only when phone is answered (and billing starts)
- Suggests a 2-phase approach

Second phase "commits" resources and atomically starts billing

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The Role of MPLS in QoS

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What Role for MPLS?

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- "MPLS brings the QoS of ATM to IP"
- "MPLS is just a traffic engineering tool"
- "MPLS is pure evil"

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"MPLS Brings the QoS of ATM to IP"

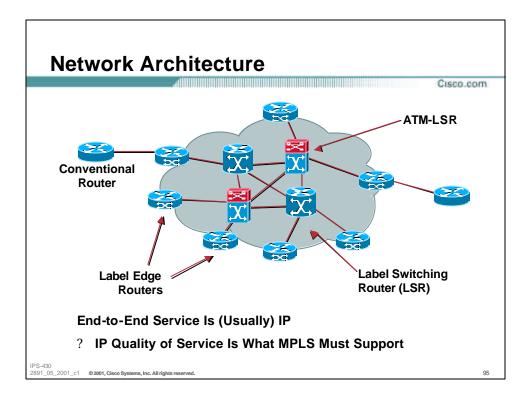
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 ATM has few mechanisms that aren't in either Diff-Serv or Int-Serv

Admission control, policing, class-based queuing, per-flow queuing,...

The lack of labels (or VCs) isn't the obstacle to QoS in MPLS

 In this regard, MPLS QoS (and ATM QoS) has been oversold



MPLS QoS or IP QoS?

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- MPLS is (usually) not end-to-end
- MPLS does not change the service interface
- + MPLS enables constraint-based routing
- + LSPs assist in QoS scalability

Can associate resources (e.g. a queue) with an LSP carrying aggregated traffic

MPLS and IP QoS

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First order of business for MPLS:
 Support the complete IP QoS model

Diff-Serv—draft-ietf-mpls-diff-ext-09.txt

Int-Serv—RSVP extensions allow labels to be bound to reservations

Initial goal: Neither more nor less than IP QoS

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RSVP/Diff-Serv Integration with MPLS

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- Diff-Serv packet marking provides the key to increasing RSVP scalability
- This could be done without MPLS, but MPLS adds

Constraint-based routing of reservations

Consistent routing of reservation messages and data

Variable granularity of reservations—LSP is the unit of reservation, not microflow or DSCP

Constraint-Based Routing

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 IP QoS has typically assumed complete separation of routing and QoS

Routing determines the path, QoS determines resource allocation on the path

What about picking a path with appropriate resources?

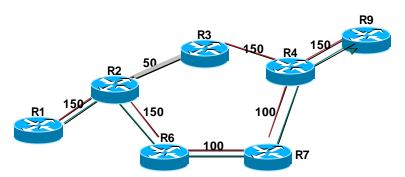
Constraint-based routing: Picking a path that meets certain constraints (e.g. sufficient BW, low delay)

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Constraint-Based Routing Example

Cisco.com



Trying to Find a Path from R1 to R9 with Bandwidth 75 Mbps R2-R3 Link Violates Constraint (BW? 75) So Delete It Pick Shortest Path on Remaining Topology

Is Current IP Routing Sufficient?

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- Conventional IP routing distributes consistent view of network to all nodes in an area
- In constraint-based routing, packets from different sources may need to be forwarded according to different constraints

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Is Current IP Routing Sufficient? (Cont.)

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- Conventional IP routing uses pure destination-based forwarding
- In constraint-based routing, packets from different sources may need to be forwarded according to different constraints

Need some "source routing" capability

IP source route option has limitations

Role of MPLS

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 An MPLS LSP can be explicitly routed along a path that meets the constraints

Using explicit route object + label object in RSVP (or CR-LDP)

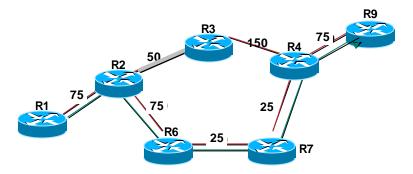
Resources may be allocated at time of LSP establishment

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Constraint-Based Routing Example

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Trying to Find a Path from R1 to R9 with Bandwidth 75 Mbps R2-R3 Link Violates Constraint (BW ? 75) So Delete It Pick Shortest Path on Remaining Topology Update Available Capacities When Path Is Established

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MPLS Benefits and Limitations

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 Current implementation is limited to single area, link-state protocol

Multi-area work underway

Inter-domain and non-link-state are challenging

A good match to RSVP aggregation

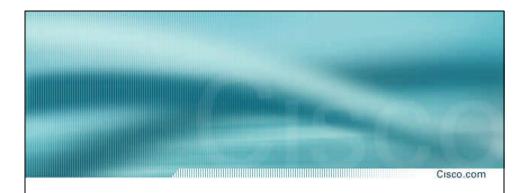
Aggregate reservation limited to a domain

MPLS ensures PATH and data follow same route

Status

- MPLS "guaranteed bandwidth" and "Diff-**Serv-Aware Traffic Engineering" (DS-TE)** in 12.0(11)ST and 12.2(2)T
- IETF efforts:

RSVP extensions for MPLS past last call Extensions to RSVP and IGPs for DS-TE in progress



Concluding Remarks

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Conclusions

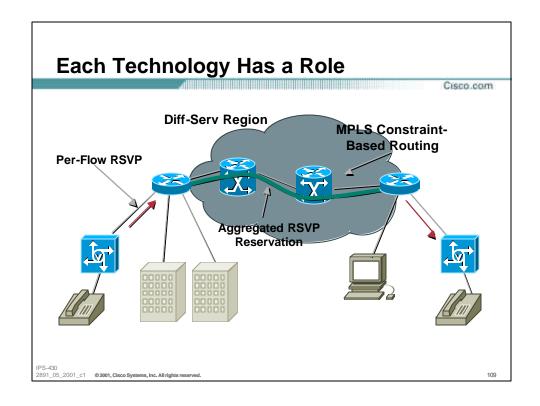
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- IP QoS is not an oxymoron
- There are many useful IP QoS technologies to deploy today

Diff-Serv: Scalability for large networks

RSVP and Int-Serv: For stronger guarantees

MPLS: For constraint-based routing in backbones (and for non-QoS applications)



Forthcoming Capabilities

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- Diff-Serv kinks to be worked out and deployment experience gained
- More analysis of guarantees
- RSVP becoming more scalable and feature-rich
- RSVP/Int-Serv and Diff-Serv will be more closely coupled

Scalability with firm guarantees and admission control



